

WESTWOOD RECREATION DEPARTMENT
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of June 11, 2012

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 8:02 P.M.

Present: Councilmember Peter Grefrath, Board Chair Michael Griffin, Members Janine Borgersen, Joan Hluchan, Don Smith, Recreation Director Gary Buchheister, Admin. Asst. Margaret McDonough
Absent: Vice Chair Catalano, Member Chris Codner

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of May 14, 2012: Member Borgersen made a Motion to Accept the Minutes as presented; Member Smith seconded the Motion; All in favor, the Motion passed.

3. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:

4. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: Councilmember Grefrath reported that Ed Sneickus of Burgis Associates reported to the Shade Tree Commission following the Recreation Board Meeting of May 14. It was determined at that meeting that several large trees near the Veterans Park Bandstand will not have to be removed during the upcoming renovation. The renovation project is scheduled to begin on August 1st.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

a. Spring 2012 program Update: The Spring Program schedule will conclude with the final week of tennis lessons. It has been a very successful season.

b. Summer Registration Update: Director Buchheister presented a registration report. To date, the Playground Pre-School is filled with 45 children; the Berkeley K-Gr 3 has an additional 21 children from 2011; the Brookside and Voorhis camps for Gr 4-8 are equal to the 2011 registration and additional registrations are anticipated for the K-3 and Gr 4-8 camps. The Before Care and After Care Programs at Berkeley and Brookside Park have increased from 2011. Due to the increased registration, the Staff consists of 48 counselors and 12 volunteer C.I.T.s.

There are eight, one-week Camps scheduled for the second week of August which have already exceeded the 2011 registrations.

c. Pre-School Registration Update: The 4 year old program reached the maximum registration of 24 children the first day of registration on May 1st. The 3 year old program currently has 8 children with a maximum of 20, which is an average registration for early June. Additional registrations are anticipated by September.

d. Summer Concerts / Movies: The Concert Schedule and Movie Schedule were presented. Concert Flyers will be distributed to the stores along Westwood Avenue and Broadway by a Playground Counselor. The Board Members' Schedule to Emcee the Concerts was determined. Discussion followed on the logistics of the Concert Series and the Movie Program.

e. Dads 5K run at Westvale Park: The Coordinators of the June 17 Christopher Hrbek fundraising event presented the route schedule to Director Buchheister which commences and concludes in Westvale Park. Volunteers are needed to assist with the registration, the route and the barbeque following the run. Many

of the Borough Departments and organizations will assist with the event as well as U.S. Marine Corps personnel. Anticipated participation is 500 persons.

f. Brookside Park Update: Repairs to the park building, ball field, ball field fencing and park grounds from the damage of Hurricane Irene is well underway and will be completed prior to the Playground Program which begins on June 25. To prevent future damage from flooding, the building will be rebuilt with cinder block versus drywall to a height of 5 feet. Director Buchheister stated that the contractor is doing an excellent job. The ball field will not be rebuilt and the DPW has converted it to a multi-purpose field removing most of the ball field fencing. Discussion followed.

6. OLD BUSINESS: Committee Assignments are waiting to be assigned for: 'Mature Adult' programs, Teen Center, Youth / Pre-School Programs, Facility Improvements (Parks & Community Center) and Sponsorship. Member John Toale has requested Facility Improvements. The remaining Committee Assignments will be confirmed at the September 10 Board Meeting.
7. NEW BUSINESS: Director Buchheister reported that at the Bergen County Charity Classic Baseball Tournament held Memorial Day weekend at Westvale Park, the people attending the event raved about the park complex and the success of the renovation project.

Canada Geese: The sudden profusion of Canada Geese in various parks and areas of town was discussed. There was a very slight population of Geese in the late Spring and by early Summer there was a dramatic increase in adult geese and goslings.

Just Cause Baseball: Member Toale reported that the 'Just Cause' Baseball Tournament will be played at Westvale Park. Adults and children are welcome to participate and the proceeds will benefit the Westwood Social Services Department. The history and future plans of the charity event were discussed.

8. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:52 P.M. by Member Borgersen; seconded by Member Hluchan. The next meeting will be the second Monday, October 15, 2012 at 8:00 P.M. in the Community Center.